

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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E I G H T Y - N I N T H   L E G I S L A T U R E

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 450**

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S. P. 248

In Senate, February 7, 1939.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and 500 copies ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Chamberlain of Penobscot.

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S T A T E   O F   M A I N E

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
THIRTY-NINE

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**AN ACT Providing State Services for the Blind.**

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

**Sec. 1. P. L., 1937, c. 210, additional.** Chapter 210 of the public laws of 1937 is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to be numbered 21 and to read as follows:

**'Sec. 21. Services for the blind.** The state department of health and welfare shall provide, or cooperate with other public agencies in providing a program of services for the blind, including the prevention of blindness, the locating of blind persons, medical service for eye conditions, vocational guidance and training of the blind, the placement of blind persons in employment, assistance to the blind in marketing the products of their home industries, the instruction of the adult blind in their homes and other social services to the blind.

The commissioner of health and welfare is hereby authorized to establish within the state department of health and welfare a division, to be known as the division of services for the blind, charged with the responsibility for carrying out the provisions of this section.'

**Sec. 2. Appropriation.** There is hereby appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1940, the sum of \$25,000 and for the fiscal year ending

June 30, 1941, the sum of \$25,000, said sums or so much of them as may be necessary, to be expended for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the foregoing section.

**Sec. 3. Revolving fund.** There is hereby established a revolving fund of \$10,000, to be known as the blind employment revolving fund, which shall be made available to the state department of health and welfare for the purpose of equipment, raw material, and such other articles as may be needed in providing employment for the blind, and for the payment of wages to blind persons employed under the supervision of the department; provided that such equipment, raw material or other articles shall not be disposed of by outright gift, and further provided that all proceeds derived from the rental or sale of such equipment, raw material, manufactured products or other articles shall be placed to the credit of the blind employment revolving fund.